



*Pacific Modernism: Mahana Villa, Nelson, New Zealand*

**NEW ZEALAND'S LUXURY TOURISM OPERATOR TOUCH OF SPICE  
EXPANDS RESIDENCE COLLECTION**

***Exclusive Portfolio Offers Access to the Finest Properties in New Zealand***

**QUEENSTOWN**, New Zealand, June 15, 2017 –New Zealand's popularity as a warm-weather destination is no surprise, however the country transforms into an incredible winter wonderland from mid-June through September. With its variety of terrain, New Zealand offers the longest skiing and snowboarding season in Australasia. From experiencing world-class ski resorts to geothermal hot springs to campfires on the beach to whale watching (June and July are prime whale watching months) to skiing minutes away from some of the best vineyards in the world to indulging in locally sourced produce and fresh seafood, winter is an ideal time to explore New Zealand while airfares are low and crowds are smaller. For a once-in-a-lifetime adventure that explores the best of New Zealand, look no further than high-end tourism specialists, **Touch of Spice**. Curating unparalleled experiences and offering the finest luxury accommodations throughout the country, Touch of Spice recently announced new additions including the expansion of its newly launched Residence Collection.

Launched in early 2017, the Touch of Spice [Residence Collection](#), is an expertly crafted portfolio of expansive private estates and oceanfront retreats, owner's cottages and premium homes available throughout New Zealand. Ranging in price from \$5000 to \$35,000 NZD per night, all properties have been personally selected by the expert team at Touch of Spice to meet the needs of the discerning traveler with world-class amenities and tailor-made experiences. In-house amenities include private chefs, daily servicing, private wine collections, art collections, butler service and in-residence spa treatments, to name a few. The team at Touch of Spice also specialize in off-property curated experiences and can arrange anything clients can dream up, whether it's a private shopping experience at a top-end boutique or remote dining under a waterfall in the New Zealand high country.

The Residence Collection has generated huge interest since its release and to meet increasing demand from global luxury travelers, Touch of Spice has recently expanded the collection to include two new exclusive properties. The first is [Bron-Yr-Aur](#), a magnificent countryside residence situated near Coronet Peak, one of Queenstown's premier ski resorts, offering sweeping views of mountain vistas and rolling hills. The original Bron-yr-Aur was the former 1950s-holiday home of the family of future Led Zeppelin vocalist Robert Plant, and Touch of Spice guests will receive the rock star treatment, catering to every desire down to the last detail.

Another exclusive addition to the Residence Collection, Touch of Spice has recently taken over the management of [Mahana Villa](#) located in Nelson, New Zealand's premier winery destination. With views of snow-capped Mt. Arthur, Mahana Villa is the former private residence of Glenn Schaeffer, an American-born hotelier, published author, art collector and philanthropist. Mahana Villa sits at the apex of the 25-hectare Mahana Vineyard which produces multiple award-winning and five-star rated Mahana wines. An impressive sight of glass, steel and wood, Mahana Villa is considered one of the most important examples of Pacific Modernism in all of Australasia. Sleeping up to fourteen in three private en-suite accommodations in the Owners Villa, two accommodations in the Loft (perfect for couples) and a one-bedroom beautiful Spa Suite, Mahana Villa was personally curated by Schaeffer himself, pairing contemporary works of arts with carefully chosen antiques, collectible furniture and subtly luxurious furnishings. Guests can arrive in style via helicopter, savour gourmet picnics and inspiring vistas at Abel Tasman National Park, and go horse-riding along the coast. Spend your days with the winemaker, sipping and sampling wines or enjoy a guided tour of the most extensive private art collection in New Zealand. With Mahana Villa the Touch of Spice Residence Collection portfolio now represents the ultimate bespoke, micro-luxury and immersive winery lifestyle experience in New Zealand.

Touch of Spice is also partnering with the best luxury accommodation providers in the country to ensure they are representing the best of the best of New Zealand. The Residence Collection is expanding to include unrivaled and exclusive-use access to the likes of [Rahimoana](#) at [Eagles Nest](#) in the Bay of Islands. A jewel in the Eagles Nest crown, Rahimoana is an award-winning presidential villa resting atop a private headland offering 360 degree views of oceans, islands, sunsets and landscapes. Another new addition is the stunning [The Penthouse by Eichardt's](#) located in central Queenstown. With uninterrupted views across Lake Wakatipu to snow-capped mountains and beyond, the exquisitely designed Penthouse adorns the top of the iconic Eichardt Private Hotel. The recent Residence Collection expansion also includes exclusive use of the best luxury lodges in New Zealand such as [Otahuna Lodge](#) outside Christchurch and [Minaret Station](#), an authentic alpine lodge in Wanaka only accessible by helicopter.

Additionally, Touch of Spice has recently been accepted into **Virtuoso®**'s exclusive portfolio of luxury travel partners as a preferred onsite supplier in the Asia Pacific region, comprised of more than 1,700 preferred suppliers in 100 countries. According to Jacqui Spice, Founder & CEO of Touch of Spice, inclusion in Virtuoso will open up new sales and marketing opportunities to the network's more than 11,400 luxury travel advisors and their highly desirable clientele. Virtuoso agencies sell more than (U.S.) \$15.5 billion annually, making the network the most significant player in luxury travel.

### ***About Touch of Spice***

Touch of Spice is a luxury tourism company, specializing in bespoke experiences, boutique luxury accommodation, and customized destination management in New Zealand. Touch of Spice has been curating stays in the finest luxury accommodations throughout New Zealand since 2005. Their portfolio is a handpicked collection of luxury holiday homes, private residences, boutique hotels and exclusive lodges and their tailored services include a personal curator to organize whatever clients may desire. [www.touchofspice.co.nz](http://www.touchofspice.co.nz)

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*\*Images available upon request*

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